

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

METHOD OF POWDER COATING

A METHOD FOR POWDER COATING A NON-CONDUCTIVE PLASTIC SUBSTRATE WHEREIN AN ADHESIVE/PRIMER IS USED IN THE PROCESS TO INCREASE THE SURFACE CONDUCTIVITY OF THE SUBSTRATE.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to a method of powder coating thermo powder resins to non-conductive plastic substrates, in particular, to polyamide materials (hereinafter referred to as nylon materials) and other non-conductive plastic substrates.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Industries such as the automotive industry are striving to look for materials that can replace existing materials to reduce costs and weight of vehicles while still maintaining quality. One such material is nylon which is a synthetic polyamide material which has characteristics unlike traditional plastics being used. Traditional plastics include polycarbonate-acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene (hereinafter referred to as PCABS) materials which provide an electroplateable and paintable surface. Nylon as a replacement has characteristics more closely associated to metals and metal composite materials than traditional plastic materials currently being used.

At the present time, traditional materials are being wet paint applicated. However, serious environmental concerns have been raised through the use of wet paint and there are substantial costs for the equipment and paint materials to provide a suitable painted surface.

The present invention has eliminated the environmental emissions, has reduced the production costs while still providing a suitable painted surface. It finds application in the automotive, plumbing, recreational, appliance, hardware and electronics industries.